

United States Government

Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: 7/12/00

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KECN-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS, (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-35)

to: John Baugher – KEWN-4
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager

Proposed Action: Mitigate Effects of Runoff and Erosion on Salmonid Habitat in Pine Hollow Watershed

Project No: 99010-00

Budget No: F5224

Watershed Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement Analysis

(See App. A of the Watershed Management Program EIS): 1.8 Bank Protection through Vegetation Management, 2.7 Avoid Exotic Species, 3.2 Conservation Cropping Sequence, 3.12 Terracing, 3.17 Sediment Basins, 3.18 Sediment and Water Control Basins, 6.1 Deferred Grazing, 6.2 Planned Grazing System, 6.3 Control Grazing Intensity, 6.5 Water Supply: Pipeline, 6.7 Water Supply: Trough, 6.8 Water Supply: Well, 6.9 Water Supply: Spring Development, 6.10 Access: Fencing, 6.13 Vegetation Stabilization: Range Seeding, 6.14 Vegetation Stabilization: Critical Area Planting, 6.15 Vegetation Stabilization, Brush/Weed Management

Location: Pine Hollow and Jack Knife Watersheds, John Day Sub-Basin, in Sherman and Wasco Counties, Oregon

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), and the Sherman Soil and Water Conservation District.

Description of the Proposed Action: In the first phase, the applicant proposes to implement practices to reduce erosion and flooding and allow active and natural recovery of riparian vegetation and channel type. In the second phase, the applicant will focus on replanting or protecting critical areas within the stream corridor. Specific activities proposed include: improve range management, install spring development for better livestock distribution/utilization, reseed critical areas, install field terracing and water and sediment control basins to control runoff and erosion from grain fields, slow water runoff, improve water-holding capacity of the riparian area, establish riparian pasture systems, provide sources of water in the uplands, establish cross-fences for more even livestock distribution, establish ungrazed buffer strips through continuous Conservation Reserve Program, and plant woody riparian species in critical areas.

Analysis: The compliance checklist for this project was completed by the BPA and meets the standards and guidelines for the Watershed Management Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD).

A species list from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was obtained listing bald eagle (threatened), Mid-Columbia River Steelhead (threatened), and Columbia River bull trout (threatened) to occur or potentially occur in the vicinity of the project area. According to the project proponent, all proposed activities are located in upland areas and no in-stream work would occur. As a result of proposed activities and a review of the Federal threatened and endangered species list and those species habitat requirements, the proposed project would not affect any threatened or endangered species that may occur in the project area.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) conducted a Cultural Resources Survey of the project area in June 2000. Based on the field investigation the NRCS determined that the proposed project would have no adverse effect on known cultural resources and should proceed as planned. A literature review of the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office files was conducted in March 2000 and the results concluded that no cultural resource sites are known to exist within the project area. The Warm Springs Tribe Division of Natural Resources has also been consulted and endorsed the proposal.

Findings: The project is generally consistent with Sections 4.1; 7.0 B; 7.1 A-D; 7.6 A-D; 7.7; 7.8 A, B, D, G, H; 10.2 B; 11.1; and 11.2 D and E of the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. The attached Supplement Analysis finds 1) that the proposed actions are substantially consistent with the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265) and ROD, and; 2) that there are no new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed actions or their impacts. Therefore, no further NEPA documentation is required.

/s/ Tish Levesque

Tish Levesque

Environmental Project Lead - KECN

CONCUR: /s/ Robert W. Beraud for
Thomas C. McKinney
NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: 7/12/00

Attachments:

NEPA Compliance Checklist

Cultural Resource Compliance Letter